

Minutes State Board of Education June 27-28, 2012

Rosie Hussey President Clear Lake

Charles C. Edwards, Jr.
Vice President
Des Moines

Diane Crookham-Johnson Oskaloosa

> Sister Jude Fitzpatrick West Des Moines

> > Michael L. Knedler Council Bluffs

> > > Valorie J. Kruse Sioux City

> > > > Mike May Spirit Lake

Max Phillips Woodward

LaMetta Wynn Clinton

McKenzie Baker Student Member Forest City

Jason E. Glass Director and Executive Officer The State Board of Education meeting was held on Wednesday, June 27, and Thursday, June 28, 2012, at Des Moines Area Community College, Ankeny, Iowa. The following State Board members were present: Rosie Hussey, Charlie Edwards, LaMetta Wynn, Diane Crookham-Johnson, McKenzie Baker, Mike Knedler, Mike May, and Valorie Kruse. Director Jason Glass and Iowa Department of Education (Department) staff members Gail Sullivan, Carol Greta, Gwen Nagel, Mike Cormack, Roger Utman, Sandra Dop, Jeff Berger, Staci Hupp, Phil Wise, Michelle Hosp and Jody Crane were also in attendance. Also in attendance were: Circe Stumbo, West Wind Education Policy, Inc.; John Parker, Legislative Service Agency; Mary Stegmeir, The Des Moines Register; Frank Hilton; Dave Epley, House Democratic Staff; and Tracey Cook, Senate Democratic Staff.

State Board Business Meeting

President Rosie Hussey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

It was moved by Valorie Kruse and seconded by Mike Knedler that the June agenda be approved.

Area Education Agency Budgets - Modified

Jeff Berger, Deputy Director, explained that since the March 29, 2012, State Board approval of the fiscal year (FY) 13 budgets and amended FY 12 budgets, Area Education Agency (AEA) 267, Heartland AEA, and Green Hills AEA experienced situations with their facilities that require their FY 12 budgets to be amended again.

Motion: LaMetta Wynn made a motion and Mike May seconded to approve the AEA budget amendments for fiscal year 2012.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Rosie Hussey adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Rosie Hussey President

∬ason E. Glass

Director

State Board of Education Retreat

Welcome - Goals of the Retreat, Discussion of State Board Self-evaluation and Follow-up

President Rosie Hussey welcomed the group and people in attendance introduced themselves. Hussey talked about the goals of the retreat. She charged the Board to set policy development priorities based on what the Board determines are critical needs. The priorities must be focused, measurable and set a clear direction.

Hussey talked about common themes that were reflected in the State Board's self-evaluation. She addressed concerns and possible solutions.

Introductory Comments

Director Jason Glass welcomed the Board and shared his view of the past legislative session. He discussed the denial of the No Child Left Behind waiver. He also provided comments on a global scale.

Legislative Update

Mike Cormack, Policy Liaison, and Phil Wise, Policy Advisor to the Director, made a presentation on past and future legislative activity to the State Board. Cormack distributed potential questions to discuss.

Phil Wise shared his thoughts on the recent failure of the No Child Left Behind (ESEA) waiver. Wise told the group that legislators were informed of the steps they needed to help in that effort and chose not to do so. Overall discussion was held with the State Board on that topic as well as process. Topics included a discussion of strategy in passing legislation, the merits of ESEA, how to motivate the public to actively engage legislators, how to include the State Board in the legislative process, the support the public has for education reform and lessons learned.

Cormack and Wise described how there are six active task forces studying educational issues at this time including competency based instruction, instructional time, educator evaluation, kindergarten readiness assessments, teaching standards as well as teacher performance and compensation.

Update on the Status of the State Board's Priorities

Online Learning

Gwen Nagel, Consultant, Division of Learning and Results, provided an update on online learning. Iowa Learning Online (ILO) is a virtual school initiative of the Department. She showed a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Iowa Learning Online
- ILO Operation
- ILO Scale-up
- Legislation

- What's Next for ILO
- For Profit Online Providers
- Additional Online Activities Area Education Agency/Urban Education Network American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ended)
- One to One Schools

Competency-based Education

Sandra Dop, Consultant, Bureau of Teaching and Learning Services, provided an update on competency-based education. Dop provided an overview of what competency-based education means. She distributed a document titled "lowa Department of Education Guidelines for PK-12 Competency-based Pathways" that provides guidelines for developing competency-based pathways in Iowa districts and schools and outlines waiver requirements and procedures.

Dop indicated that the legislature established a Competency-based Instruction Task Force. She described the membership, future meetings, the charge, and reporting. The first task force meeting will be on July 30, 2012. The Board will receive the task force's final report. She also referenced common questions relating to Competency-based Education.

Reducing the Achievement Gap

Michelle Hosp, Consultant, Bureau of Student, Family and Community Services, provided an update on reducing the achievement gap. Her presentation focused on:

- 1) Identifying reliable and valid universal screening and progress monitoring tools (K-6) in reading.
- 2) Building a data system for schools and districts to use Response to Intervention (RtI) data more effectively.
- 3) Understanding standards outlined in the Iowa Core and what instruction should look like in reading K-6 for all students to be successful.

Emerging Issues/Department Direction and Focus Areas (Re-visioning)

Jason Glass discussed some of the Department's and Governor's priorities in terms of education reform. He reviewed a Prezi presentation titled: A Reform Agenda for World Class Iowa Schools which addressed:

- Global challenge
- Elmore's instructional core
- Four lenses for whole system change:
 - Is it related to the instructional core?
 - Is it strongly supported by evidence?
 - Is it supported by international benchmarking?
 - Is it scalable?

Glass also talked about the policies the Department and Governor's office will be advocating for the next legislative session. The focus will be on educators, standards, and students.

State Board Priority Setting

Rosie Hussey introduced Circe Stumbo, President of West Wind Education Policy, Inc. Stumbo shared information about herself and West Wind. Stumbo began the process of assisting the Board in establishing their priorities for 2012-2013.

Stumbo posed the following questions and Board members provided feedback:

- What are you excited about for the Board as you look forward to 2012-13?
- What are you worried about?

Stumbo shared a PowerPoint that addressed:

- Options for acting on priorities
- Criteria for selecting priorities
- Potential Priority Topics
 - o Unpacking "Teacher Quality"
 - Unpacking "Preparation"

Aligning the Focus Areas of the Department, the Priorities of the State Board, and the Strategic Plan

Discussion continued to identify the Board's priorities for 2012-13. The following priorities were tentatively identified:

- Competency-Based Education
- Online Learning and Other Technological Advances
- Reducing Achievement Gaps
- Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation*

State Board Meeting Dates for 2013

Gail Sullivan, Chief of Staff, Office of the Director, asked the Board to review the proposed meeting dates for 2013, and to contact the Department with any conflicts. Rosie Hussey stressed the importance of having everyone at next year's retreat.

Closing Remarks

Rosie Hussey provided closing remarks and asked for Board members' feedback.

^{*}Attached list was developed at the meeting and expands upon these four priorities.

IOWA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Policy Development Priorities 2012-2013 DRAFT

Competency-Based Education

- Collaborate with the Legislative Task Force and other sectors
- Track the ongoing grassroots networking around competency-based education
- Track a school engaging in competency-based education
- Engage educator preparation programs to consider potential implications
- · Communicate with stakeholders and the public

Online Learning and Other Technological Advances

- Advocate for Iowa Learning Online (ILO)
- Gather information on one-to-one schools, flipped classrooms, and other technological advances for impact on student achievement
- · Highlight ways educators use technology for learning, teaching, and leading
- Engage preparation programs on the use of technology in teaching and leading
- · Communicate with stakeholders and the public

Reducing Achievement Gaps

- Study root causes of and current efforts to address disparities
 - Recognize and address racial disparities, define cultural competency, and examine systemic conditions
 - Current efforts: Federal funding, alternative schools, etc.
- Study schools that have been effective
- Promote collaboration toward eliminating achievement gaps
- Consider relationship of RTI to closing gaps
- Communicate with stakeholders and the public

Improving Teacher and Leader Preparation

- Study program approval process
 - Review current criteria
 - Study best practices in other states and nations
 - Consider possibility of blue ribbon distinctions
- Study related policies and practices
 - Accountability (especially use of student achievement data)
 - Recruitment
 - Teaching standards
 - Clinical practice
 - Performance assessment
 - Induction
- Collaborate with the BOEE for alignment with certification
- Engage stakeholders
 - Convene a work group or join other work groups
 - Convene a day-long event/symposium/conversation
 - Communicate with stakeholders and the public